

January 19, 2010

The Honorable Kuipers
Michigan State Senate
Lansing, MI 48918

Honorable sir,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to discuss with you Proposal 08-1 which passed with 63% of the vote in every county and every district in the State of Michigan and is now known as the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act of 2008.

I am an ordained Lutheran Pastor. I currently serve a large congregation in Three Rivers. I fully supported Proposal 08-1 for many valid reasons.

I. State's Right Issue. The medicinal use of marijuana should be a State's Rights issue and should not be held under the scrutiny of a Federal mandate.

II. Profit: Regulate and Tax. There is great profit to be made in the cultivation, distribution and taxation of this particular natural, renewable cash crop.

III. Medical Treatment Option/Concerns. Qualifying persons with specific medical conditions should be allowed the choice whether or not to use this treatment option.

IV. Personal. My wife is a breast cancer survivor and receives many benefits from the medicinal use of cannabis. She is a medical cannabis patient and I am her caregiver.

Please allow me to explain in greater detail each of my points.

I. State's Rights Issue.

A. To get a proposal on the ballot for the general election required at least 250,000 signatures of registered Michigan voters. 63% of the Michigan electorate supported this proposal.

B. The State Legislature may have to alter the Marijuana Law.

II. Profit: Regulate and Tax

A. There should be Two Movements for the pursuit of profit.

1. Commercial Grade Hemp
2. Pharmaceutical Grade Cannabis

B. I am certain, beyond all reasonable doubt, that there is enormous profit potential in the cultivation, distribution and taxation of cannabis and hemp. Will the State really be so foolish as to pass on this once in a lifetime opportunity? Yes, there will be legitimate Interstate Commerce issues. These concerns are properly addressed by the Michigan Legislature.

C. There should be limited contracts awarded to Private for Profit Corporations for the manufacture of Commercial Hemp and Pharmaceutical Grade Cannabis. I would suggest no more than ten (10) major enterprises be awarded contracts for at least the first ten years of operation. Two (2) additional cannabis farms should be public co-op's.

D. Because of the high risk involved in growing marijuana, security will be an issue. Armed guards will be needed for the protection of the facilities and for the safe transport of the medicinal cannabis from the facility to licensed pharmacies/dispensaries. The corporations will be charged with this responsibility.

E. Each enterprise must have a Board of Directors who will give quarterly reports to a State Oversight Committee. The most natural State Department which should oversee this entire process should be the Department of Agriculture. I would gladly serve as an advisor on any Oversight Committee the Legislature proposes.

III. Medical Treatment Options/Concerns.

A. Qualifying persons have the right to all treatment options, especially natural ones. Patients also have the right to know how their medicinal cannabis has been prepared and with what nutrients have been used in it's growth. The only way to know for sure, right now, is to grow one's own.

B. There are many different ways to consume medicinal cannabis. Vaporizers are very efficient as a THC delivery system with no tar or carcinogenic bi-products produced in the process. Tinctures, concentrates and edible forms of cannabis are other options as well.

C. Patients have a right to a continual, uninterrupted supply of usable marihuana. The right to grow ones own medical cannabis provides this right should not be infringed upon by any agent of the State. The Michigan electorate has spoken. The will of the people should be honored. The distribution of medicinal cannabis may take place through a pharmacy or dispensary, regulated and taxed by the state providing the supply of usable marihuana remains uninterrupted.

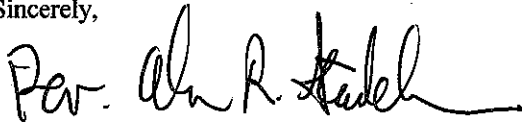
D. Rescheduling problem. The Federal government must first reschedule cannabis to a level where medical doctors are able to write a prescription for the use of medical cannabis. Without such a rescheduling of cannabis, doctors will be reticent to write a prescription for medicinal cannabis for fear of violating Federal law. States do not have the authority to reschedule drugs.

IV. Personal. My wife, Lois, whom I love with my whole heart, is a breast cancer survivor. She benefits greatly from the use of medical cannabis. What pharmaceutical chemicals fail to do for her, this natural remedy, this plant, does so with no side effects whatsoever.

Dear sir, will you be the one who is able to provide the necessary leadership to help lead the people of this great State to a new season of wholesomeness and prosperity? Will you help lead the citizens of Michigan to embrace this natural, renewable resource? What a better way to show the Republic of the United States that we are indeed a Green State by embracing Cannabis and Hemp for our mutual health and prosperity?

I would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with you again to discuss my ideas in greater detail. I would be honored to accept an invitation for an audience with you at your convenience. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



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